

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/011920

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-6 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1 received by this Authority on 03.08.2005 with letter of 03.08.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/2, 2/2 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, nos. 2-11
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
1.	Reference is made to the following documents:		
	D1: US 1538026A.		
2.	<p>Document D1 is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. Said document discloses (the references in parentheses are to said document): an elastic bandage, as described in lines 1-7 of claim 1.</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p>		
3.	<p>The solution to the above problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)). The reasons are as follows: the problem addressed by the present invention can be seen to relate to the concept of configuring the entire surface of the sole as a Velcro®-type surface in order to allow fast and optimal positioning of the orthopaedic and orthetic elements within the elastic bandage, which has no precedent in the available prior art.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">/...</p>		

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
	<p>4. Independent claim 1 has not been drafted in the two-part form defined by PCT Rule 6.3(b). However, in the present case the two-part form would appear to be appropriate. Accordingly, the features known in combination from the prior art should have been placed in the preamble (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(i)) and the remaining features specified in the characterising part (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(ii)).</p> <p>Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite D1 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.</p> <p>The description is not consistent with claim 1 (PCT Rule 5.1(a)(iii)).</p>